

Letter of Information

24 November 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Staff Personnel

SUBJECT: Letter of Information

GENERAL

1. Greek-Turkish Confrontation: On 22 November the Mediterranean Bureau, faced with the threat of an imminent Turkish invasion of Cyprus, was forced to suspend operations at its Karavas site and establish an emergency operation at Yerolakkos, near Nicosia. Simultaneously, FBIS personnel subject to evacuation in time of danger were moved to the Hilton Hotel in Nicosia, and later the dependents were evacuated to Beirut.

The Mediterranean Bureau closed down at Karavas and reopened from its alternate site at about 2130 GMT 22 November. Initially, only Greek, Turkish, and Cypriot broadcasts were covered from Yerolakkos, although the operation was expanded within 24 hours to include some regular coverage. Items were initially filed by common-user channels pending the reestablishment of communications through normal channels to London.

With the assistance of the London Bureau and the rapid reconstitution of the Mediterranean Bureau at its alternate location, coverage loss was minimized and the FBIS Wire Service was able to provide extensive reporting on the developing situation. Reports generally were ahead of Western press in both timeliness and scope. The U.S. Embassy in Ankara was able to report, for example, that its copy of an important National Assembly resolution "agrees fully with the text reported by FBIS." Of special interest were items carried by the Turkish clandestine radios Voice of Cyprus and Bayrak. Lateral servicing to U.S. missions in Nicosia, Athens, and Ankara continued.
(SECRET)

2. Saigon Situation: The Viet Cong again demonstrated its ability to strike at downtown Saigon when the Independence Palace was mortared during celebrations attending the inauguration of President Thieu. The VC mortar position was found to be sited in a building one block from the Saigon Bureau. Communist radio comment on U.S. and South Vietnamese security precautions during the period was of special interest to the U.S. Mission. (CONFIDENTIAL)

Group 1

Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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With the completion of a new embassy building, the Saigon Bureau moved on 8 November to the Fifth Floor of the former Embassy Chancery. The move from the old Embassy Annex, in which FBIS had been located since 1955, immediately resulted in greater space and improved reception. The Bureau established an in-bureau tributary terminal off the Embassy communications center. (SECRET)

3. Nigerian Situation: The situation in Kaduna remained quiet as the Nigerian civil war abated somewhat following the capture by Federal troops of Enugu, capital city of the dissident Eastern Region. Anti-American propaganda on Nigerian radios nevertheless continued to be a concern. (CONFIDENTIAL)

4. London Press Monitoring Unit: The London PMU's first local employee, a Russian linguist, reported for duty 23 October and immediately began training in selection and translation of material from Pravda. The PMU also started processing Moscow Izvestiya with the 8 November issue. Three other "press analyst trainees" reported for duty 20 November. The Embassy has approved arrangements for relaying PMU teletype traffic through Embassy communications to Caversham. The overhaul and adaptation of teletype equipment for the PMU, sited in a London suburb, has been completed. (CONFIDENTIAL)

5. Retirement of Mr. John Campbell: The Director, FBIS, sent the following message to Mr. John Campbell on the occasion of his retirement as Head, BBC Monitoring Service: "On the occasion of your departure from the BBC Monitoring Service which you have so ably directed for the past 14 years, let me express again the deep appreciation we in FBIS feel for the cooperation and helpfulness you have always shown us. Your personal efforts in forging close bonds between our two services have contributed significantly to the success we have enjoyed in our joint monitoring of the world's radios. We will greatly miss your wise counsel and friendly collaboration in the years ahead. All of your many friends and colleagues in FBIS join me in wishing you every success in your future endeavors."

Mr. Campbell sent the following reply: "Deeply grateful for your message. I will always value our associations and your friendship. Please send my greetings and best wishes to all my FBIS friends."

SERVICES AND REQUIREMENTS

6. Requirements Handling: Special unclassified versions of the Current Intelligence Reporting Lists (CIRL) are being compiled in Headquarters and distributed to field bureaus for use by non-Staff personnel. The Headquarters Special Services Requirement List has been

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updated and will be distributed to FBIS Headquarters and field components in December. The new list incorporates special services provided by the area divisions. (CONFIDENTIAL)

7. Special Services: The field has been asked to flag to L&R for use by an Organization component copies of all processed material on Stokely Carmichael. FBIS also continues to supply another Organization component tape recordings of statements made by Carmichael over foreign radios. (SECRET)

The German and London bureaus were asked to file all significant West German comment on Soviet defector Yevgeniy Runge to L&R for special dissemination to Organization consumers. The German Bureau was also asked to supply the same information to a local U.S. military component. (SECRET)

Other special services have included the supplying of a two-week sampling of Havana Creole program summaries for an Organization component. Copies of four issues of Trends in Communist Propaganda containing a summation of communist reaction to the Secretary of Defense's mid-September announcement of the U.S. decision to build a limited ABM system were supplied to an Organization unit for forwarding to Secretary McNamara's office. FBIS replied to a high-level inquiry concerning Moscow's reaction to Secretary Rusk's attendance at the Soviet Embassy reception on the October Revolution Anniversary. (SECRET)

The Saigon Bureau provided special tape recordings of communist broadcasts dealing with the pacification effort in Vietnam for the National Training Center at Vung Tau, where pacification teams are trained. (CONFIDENTIAL)

8. Lateral Services: Seven consumers who were previously supplied information on space launchings and related developments by the FBIS Wire and Communications Center are now being serviced directly by field bureaus. The London and Austrian bureaus have been asked to file laterally to the American Embassy in Singapore all significant Moscow radio and press references to Singapore. Following a request from the State Department, field bureaus are now supplying the U.S. Embassy in Bogota with significant all-source material on Colombia. (SECRET)

9. Press and Document Exploitation: While receipt of regular newspapers from Asian Communist countries continued to lag during October, about 125 Red Guard handbills and bulletins and 16 Red Guard newspapers were received by the Asia Division from Communist China. In addition, the division received 102 issues of provincial-level papers of the CPR,

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covering the period June through October. A second batch of 184 issues of Red Guard newspapers were microfilmed and sent to the Agency library. (SECRET)

The USSR Division's Economic Branch received newspapers containing the USSR plan-fulfillment statistics for the first nine months of 1967 on 23 October, sent advanced copies of the translation to an Organization component, and published the material in the next day's FPD: Soviet Union, The Europe/Africa/Latin America Division was commended by an Organization component for material in the 4 October FPD: East Europe dealing with Czech aircraft production. (SECRET)

10. Propaganda Analysis: PAD services included supplying Soviet propaganda materials on the Venus-4 findings to the Goddard Space Center and responding to a number of inquiries from various offices on Soviet publicity for Venus-4 and the subsequent Cosmos 186 and 188 linkup. Overall propaganda treatment of the Soviet space probes was covered in the Trends and Survey. Services relating to Vietnam continued with the issuance of the ninth in the PAD series of monthly Special Memorandums on Hanoi propaganda claims of civilian casualties from U.S. air strikes and the compilation for OCI of communist propaganda items on U.S. anti-war groups. (CONFIDENTIAL)

11. Special Language Support: [] of Asia Division, was assigned to Indonesia with the party of Vice President Humphrey to provide special Staff linguistic support. [] of USSR Division, served as interpreter/escort officer for a visiting Soviet scientist, a member of the Supreme Soviet. (SECRET)

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PUBLICATIONS

12. Supplements: USSR/EE Branch was responsible for 11 Supplements totaling 829 pages during the past month. Contributions came from the Austrian, London, Mediterranean, and Hokkaido Bureaus and the USSR Division. The supplements were:

"Materials on October 1967 USSR Supreme Soviet Session," Volume II, 20 October, 64 pages; "Materials of 5-6 October Plenum of the Rumanian Communist Party Central Committee," Volume I, 30 October, 68 pages, and Volume II, 1 November, 37 pages; "Materials on the 50th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution," Volume III, 26 October, 71 pages; Volume IV, 2 November, 68 pages; Volume V, 6 November, 85 pages; Volume VI, 7 November, 84 pages; Volume VII, 8 November, 90 pages; Volume VIII, 8 November, 90 pages; Volume IX, 15 November, 84 pages; Volume X, 16 November, 88 pages. (UNCLASSIFIED)

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13. Reports Merger: Publication of the Foreign Press Digest: Latin America was discontinued 6 November, with materials incorporated into the Latin America Daily Report. During the first two weeks the merged Latin America report carried a daily average of 4.6 pages of press scrutiny material supplied by LA Branch/EAD and the contractual facility, representing about 10 percent of the total daily average for the book. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

14. Editorial Assistance: About 25 percent of Daily Report copy is now being sent for typing unmarked for capitalization, and with page numbers, "rpt," confirming figures, and other cablese unedited. Typists are rendering this correctly with few inconsistencies. Four clericals have been assigned full time to the editorial branches to assist in proofreading. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

15. Translation Savings: The Consolidated Translation Survey operation processed about 1,100 inquiries and requirements during October. Of these, 177 were found to be duplicative of translations already available. These totaled 11,500 pages and represented an estimated savings of about \$57,000. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

16. Publication Delay: The 21st edition of Broadcasting Stations of the World is expected to be available for delivery in December. Publication was delayed due to errors by the Government Printing Office contractor. (UNCLASSIFIED)

FIELD OPERATIONS

17. European Communications: As part of FBIS preparations for covering the Soviet 50th anniversary celebration, a temporary upgrading of the restoration priority for European dedicated circuits was granted by NCS, National Communications System. (CONFIDENTIAL)

18. Hokkaido Communications: The Hokkaido Bureau's common-user communication line has been converted into a direct tie-line with the Tokyo Bureau. Hokkaido is now a tributary of the Tokyo Bureau, bearing the new DCS routing indicator RUAPBIA, and uses the FBIS internal address indicator NJ. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

19. Broadcast Developments: The new winter schedule of Radio Moscow includes broadcasts for the first time in Guarani, beamed to Paraguay and adjacent Latin American countries. The Panama Bureau was able to obtain the temporary services of a Guarani translator. In another development, Radio Tashkent began twice-weekly thirty-minute Arabic

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transmissions on 24 October. The BBC and Mediterranean Bureau were sampling the new casts. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

20. Austrian Bureau Production: With materials dealing with four Eastern Europe party plenums and the Soviet anniversary celebration available, the Austrian Bureau broke all its previous production records in October with 921,000 words of copy, including 622,000 from the press. Some 45,000 words were typed directly on mats. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

21. Aden Coverage: The BBC arranged for its Nairobi operation to cover Aden broadcasts on an expanded basis, filing significant material through special communications arrangements. This was in response to special Headquarters interest in the Aden situation. (CONFIDENTIAL)

ENGINEERING

22. Field Construction Projects: The overall construction project for the Caribbean Bureau is now estimated to be 95.5 percent completed. Because of recent slowdowns and delays, completion is now expected sometime in December. By the end of October the construction of USA Homes at the Hokkaido Bureau was virtually completed. At the Okinawa Bureau, the construction contract for four new houses for the bureau was 26 percent completed as of 31 October, and work on modifying eight GSWK houses was started on 23 October. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

23. Key West Reception: The Key West Bureau's primary television antenna array has been rearranged to provide a new configuration developed at Headquarters for eliminating interference caused by WCIX (Channel 6) Miami and improving the reception of Havana transmissions. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

24. West Coast Line: The West Coast Bureau's leased teletype line was disconnected on 10 October. A TWX installation, leased from AT&T, was installed at Headquarters and the Bureau to provide backup communications for AUTODIN. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

MISCELLANEOUS

25. Portable Monitoring Equipment: Six sets of portable monitoring equipment have been completed and are being deployed for possible operational use. Two sets are being sent to the Okinawa Bureau and one to the Panama Bureau. Two sets are being held for the Mediterranean Bureau. One set will be retained in Headquarters. Each recipient bureau will also have a portable tape punch. (SECRET)

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30. Training: During the reporting period the following personnel completed training courses: (CONFIDENTIAL)

- a. [redacted] Midcareer Course, 8 October - 17 November 1967 50X1
- b. [redacted] - Senior Management Seminar, 29 October - 3 November 1967
- c. [redacted] - DIA Orientation, 7 & 8 November 1967 50X1
- d. [redacted] ADP Systems Development Process Course, 14 - 16 November 1967 50X1
- e. [redacted] - Managerial Grid, 12 - 17 November 1967 50X1
- f. [redacted] - Executive Orientation in PPBS, 15 - 17 November 1967 50X1

31. Regulatory Issuances. The following regulatory issuances were disseminated: (SECRET)

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PERSONNEL

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32. New Employees

Assignment

Typist, Publications Division
Typist, Publications Division
Monitor, East Coast Bureau
Typist, Publications Division
Area Officer, Europe/Africa/Latin Am. Div.
Editor, Publications Division
Typist, Field Operations Staff
Teletypist, Wire Services Staff
Analyst, Propaganda Analysis Division
Typist, Publications Division
Typist, Publications Division
Area Officer, USSR Division

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33. Reassignments

From

To

Watch Officer Mediterranean Bureau	Watch Officer West Coast Bureau
Editor Publications Division	Editor Mediterranean Bu
Monitor East Coast Bureau	Area Officer USSR Division
Area Officer USSR Division	Area Officer EAD

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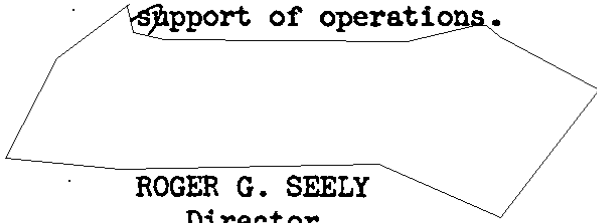
34. Awards



- Senior Guard, Mediterranean Bureau -
Certificate of Merit in recognition
of sustained superior performance in
support of operations.

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ROGER G. SEELY
Director
Foreign Broadcast Information Service